

# Principal Examiners' Report November 2010

FS

## Functional Skills English Reading Level 1

### E102

Edexcel is one of the leading examining and awarding bodies in the UK and throughout the world. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers.

Through a network of UK and overseas offices, Edexcel's centres receive the support they need to help them deliver their education and training programmes to learners.

For further information, please call our Functional Skills line on **0844 576 0028**

or visit our website at [www.edexcel.com/fs](http://www.edexcel.com/fs).

If you have any subject specific questions about the content of this Mark Scheme that require the help of a subject specialist, you may find our Ask The Expert email service helpful.

Ask The Expert can be accessed online at the following link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/Aboutus/contact-us/>

Alternatively, you can speak directly to a subject specialist at Edexcel on our dedicated English telephone line: **0844 372 2188**

November 2010

Publications Code FC025800

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Edexcel Ltd 2010

# E102 - Functional Skills English, Reading Level 1

---

## General comments

In general, this paper worked well with a high number of learners understanding both texts and responding appropriately to the information in these. Learners are not required to write answers in complete sentences but should be encouraged to avoid writing only single word answers which do not necessarily convey the appropriate response.

Learners lost marks for the following reasons:

1. Failure to read the question properly
2. Writing single word answers which failed to convey the required meaning
3. Re-stating the question or copying irrelevant 'chunks' from the text
4. Confusing answers for another question
5. Providing an answer based on assumption or own experience not text based

## Question 1

Well answered multiple choice question on the main purpose of the text.

### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to identify the main purpose of the text and to distinguish from detail. Reminder to learners to answer multiple choice questions by placing an 'X' in the appropriate box.

## Question 2

Straightforward multiple choice question which most learners answered correctly. Not all learners answered with an 'X' in the box.

### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to read texts in detail and extract the relevant information.

## Question 3

Straightforward multiple choice question which most learners answered correctly. Not all learners answered with an 'X' in the box.

### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to read texts in detail and respond appropriately.

## Question 4

Most learners answered this correctly and many gave two answers although only one was required.

### Examiner Tip

This question demonstrates that learners can correctly extract the relevant information from a given text.

### Question 5

This was generally well answered although some learners gave single word answers such as 'health', 'prescriptions', 'details' which were not specific enough to gain a mark.

#### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to be able to identify the specific information in the text and respond appropriately giving sufficient detail e.g. current prescriptions or personal details was required to gain a mark.

### Question 6

This question may have been misinterpreted by some learners or learners had not read the relevant section in the text about contacting the NHS and gave answers such as 'phone', 'email'. Some answers were not specific enough to gain a mark e.g. 'online', 'website' instead of 'NHS website' or the address of the website.

#### Examiner Tip

At this level learners are expected to be able to extract and link examples from the text and should be encouraged to write more than single word answers, although full sentences are not required. Specific information was required e.g. the address of the website or the name of the website.

### Question 7

A number of learners appeared to find this question difficult and failed to respond appropriately. Some learners simply gave single word answers such as 'quicker', 'safer' which did not convey meaning of how patient care will improve. Other learners copied chunks from the text which were not relevant.

#### Examiner Tip

At this level learners are expected to identify suitable responses to the text and should be encouraged to write more than single word answers. Examples of answers expected: 'quicker/easier to find information about you', 'any NHS staff treating you will have important information about you', etc

### Question 8

Well answered multiple choice question on purpose of letter.

#### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to identify the main purpose of the letter and to distinguish from the detail.

### Question 9

A well answered multiple choice question requiring two answers. A few learners, however, gave only one answer. Incorrect answers tended to include weight problems.

#### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to read and understand the text in detail. Learners must read the question carefully to determine how many answers are required.

### Question 10

Many learners gave two correct features specific to a letter although some gave generic features of a text such as paragraphs which did not gain a mark. Some learners referred to the actual information in the text regarding appointments and a few gave answers such as 'it looks like a letter'.

#### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to be able to identify features in a variety of texts. Features should be specific to that particular type of text and answers should not be generic features which can be found in a range of texts.

#### Question 11

Most learners gave two correct answers to this question, the most popular being 'to make an alternative appointment,' 'so they could see another patient'. Less successful learners concentrated on the reasons why they could not attend, explaining that they were on holiday but had not focused on the need to change appointments. A few simply stated the dates of the appointments or gave the answer for Q13. A few learners gave one word answers such as 'appointment' or 'patient' which lacked meaning and could not be awarded a mark unlike 'change appointment' or 'give to another patient' which were awarded marks.

#### Examiner Tip

This question demonstrates that learners at this level can identify suitable responses to a text and give the necessary detail required. Learners should be encouraged to write more than single word answers.

#### Question 12

A very well answered question with almost all learners extracting the relevant answer.

#### Examiner Tip

Learners are expected to read texts in detail and respond appropriately.

#### Question 13

This was generally well answered with most correct responses concentrating on the idea of staying on top of your health or to get advice on diet and exercise. Incorrect answers tended to be based on assumption rather than focusing on the text. Typical examples included 'because you could have a heart attack while on holiday', 'you could have heart problems and not know'. Some learners gave single word answers such as 'treatment' 'advice' which failed to convey the required meaning.

#### Examiner Tip

Answers must be based on the text and not on assumption or the learner's own experience. This question demonstrates that learners at this level can make use of the information in the text and respond appropriately giving the necessary detail required. Learners should be encouraged to write more than single word answers.

## Pass mark for E102

---

Maximum mark	20
Pass mark	14
UMS mark	6

Further copies of this publication are available from  
Edexcel Publications, Adamsway, Mansfield, Notts, NG18 4FN

Telephone 01623 467467  
Fax 01623 450481

Email [publications@linneydirect.com](mailto:publications@linneydirect.com)

Order Code FC025800 November 2010

For more information on Edexcel qualifications, please visit [www.edexcel.com/quals](http://www.edexcel.com/quals)

Edexcel Limited. Registered in England and Wales no.4496750  
Registered Office: One90 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7BH